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Minutes

Board of Regents' Proprietary Schools Advisory Commission

July 14, 2020

The Louisiana Board of Regents' Proprietary Schools Advisory Commission hosted a virtual meeting on Tuesday, July 14, 2020. Prior to beginning the meeting, Chair Fontenot, on behalf of the commission, congratulated Ms. Marabella on her upcoming retirement. Ms. Marabella thanked the commission for their well wishes and for their service and dedication to post-secondary education in Louisiana. She then introduced to the members of the Commission Ms. Courtney Britton who will be succeeding her as the Proprietary Schools Program Administrator, effective July 15, 2020. The Commission members extended a warm welcome to Ms. Britton. At 10:07 a.m., Chair Fontenot called the meeting to order, read a statement regarding the procedures to be followed during the Zoom Webinar, and the roll was called.

Commission Members Present

Melanie Amrhein, Vice-Chair
Sherrie Despino
James Dorris
James Fontenot, Chair
Jada Lewis
Carmen Million
Mary Lou Potter

Staff Members Present

Courtney Britton
Dr. Randall Brumfield
Kristi Kron
Carol Marabella

Commission Members Absent

Raymond Lalonde

Guests Present

(See Appendix A.)

The first item of business was the approval of the minutes from its meeting of May 12, 2020.

On motion of Ms. Potter, seconded by Ms. Despino, and after the Chair confirmed that there were no public comments, the Proprietary Schools Advisory Commission via roll call vote unanimously adopted the minutes of the May 12, 2020 Proprietary Schools Advisory Commission meeting.

The next agenda item considered by the Commission was two initial license applications, the first from Cross Road CDL Academy, LLC, located in Harvey, Louisiana, and represented by the school's Operational Manager/Instructor, Ms. Erica A. Walker. Ms. Marabella reviewed the materials for the Commission members informing them that the institution was proposing to offer two programs of study to prepare individuals for a commercial driver's license: CDL Training (Class A) and CDL Training (Class B). The Class A CDL training program is 160.0 clock hours with a program length of four weeks for day classes and eight weeks for evening classes. The Class B CDL training is 80.0 clock hours in length with an anticipated completion time of two weeks for day classes and four weeks for evening classes. Cross Road CDL Academy, LLC, had met all the legal and administrative requirements to be approved for an initial license.

Following further discussion regarding the reasons for opening the school, anticipated class size and number of instructors, placement opportunities for graduates upon program completion, and the demand for commercial drivers as a result of the pandemic,

On motion of Ms. Amrhein, seconded by Ms. Lewis and after the Chair confirmed that there were no public comments, the Proprietary Schools Advisory Commission via roll call vote unanimously recommended that the Board of Regents approve an initial license for Cross Road CDL Academy, LLC, located in Harvey, Louisiana.

The second initial license application considered by the Commission was from NOLA Institute of Gaming, LLC, located in New Orleans, Louisiana, and represented by Mr. Willie Thomas III, the school's Owner/Instructor. Ms. Marabella reviewed the materials for the Commission members, informing them that the institution would be offering two programs of study: Comprehensive Casino Dealing Program and Complete Casino Dealing Program. The Comprehensive Casino Dealing Program is 300.0 clock hours in length and has an anticipated completion time of three months. The Complete Casino Dealing Program is 500.0 clock hours in length and has an anticipated completion time of five months. NOLA Institute of Gaming, LLC, had met all the legal and administrative requirements to be approved for an initial license.

Following further discussion regarding the reason for opening the school, competition in the market area, owner's anticipation of student enrollment and viability of the school in light of current pandemic, the planned adherence of safety precautions and the providing of PPE to students, the unavailability of a standard curriculum model in the industry, the criteria to be met for successful completion of the program and awarding of certification, and the potential salaries for graduates,

On motion of Ms. Mary Lou Potter, seconded by Ms. Amrhein, and after the Chair confirmed that there were no public comments, the majority Proprietary Schools Advisory Commission via roll call recommended that the Board of Regents approve an initial license for NOLA Institute of Gaming, LLC, located in New Orleans, Louisiana.

The next agenda item considered by the Commission was operating license renewals. Ms. Marabella informed the Commission members that there were twenty-three (23) schools seeking renewal. These schools scheduled for renewal were in complete compliance, having met all the legal and administrative requirements to be re-licensed.

Following further discussion,

On motion of Ms. Million, seconded by Ms. Despino, and after the Chair confirmed that there were no public comments, the Proprietary Schools Advisory Commission via roll call unanimously recommended that the Board of Regents renew the licenses of the following proprietary schools (initial license date in parentheses).

**Advance Healthcare Institute, LLC (05/26/11)
BAR/BRI (Baton Rouge) (05/23/12)
BAR/BRI (New Orleans) (05/23/12)
Ben D. Johnson Educational Center, Inc. (06/19/19)
Blue Cliff College--Alexandria (05/25/06)
Delta College of Arts & Technology (06/25/92)
Diesel Driving Academy (Baton Rouge) (06/25/87)
Global Trucking Academy (06/29/16)
Holmes Healthcare Training Center Corp. (06/19/19)
Instructors for Life, LLC (06/19/19)
Integrated Education Solutions, LLC (05/23/18)
Lincoln College of Technology (05/22/03)
Louisiana Institute of Massage Therapy (05/22/13)
McCann School of Business and Technology (05/23/18)
Med-Advance Training (05/22/17)
Oak Park School of Dental Assisting (05/28/09)
Operation Spark (06/29/16)
Ouachita Truck Driving Academy, LLC (05/22/03)
Petra College, Inc. (05/27/15)
Precision Weld Testing & Training, LLC (05/23/18)
Remington College (05/26/11)
Remington College (05/26/11)
SIHAF Career Institute (05/21/14)**

Ms. Marabella informed the Commission that there was one institution that did not renew its license this renewal cycle: J W Training Center, LLC (05/22/17). Premier Healthcare

Training Solutions (08/23/17) is also listed as a closed school due to the revocation of the school's license by the Board of Regents at its December 2019 meeting. The student records from J W Training Center, LLC, have been submitted to the Board of Regents for permanent storage. Staff will follow through to secure the student records from Premier Healthcare Training Solutions and confirm that classes are not being conducted or advertised.

The next item on the agenda was an update on program approvals. Chair Fontenot reminded the Commission that staff approved these updates administratively and course approvals were being shared for informational purposes only.

Under Report from Staff, Ms. Marabella discussed her work to onboard Ms. Britton for a smooth transition, as well as staff's recent review of revisions to the administrative code in order to update the citations to reflect the recent changes to the revised statute. Dr. Brumfield shared that staff has been in contact with schools during this pandemic to solicit input as to the status of planned summer and fall 2020 sessions. He also thanked Ms. Marabella for her years of service and providing a strong foundation for the proprietary schoolwork to be included in the Board of Regents master plan.

Under Other Business, Ms. Marabella announced that the next meeting of the Proprietary Schools Advisory Commission is scheduled for Tuesday, September 8, 2020, at 10:00 a.m. However, at this time the format of the meeting is yet to be determined, but will be related to Commission members prior to the anticipated meeting. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:52 a.m.

APPENDIX A
GUESTS

Mr. Willie Thomas, III

NOLA Institute of Gaming, LLC

Erica Walker

Cross Road CDL Academy, LLC

Patricia Wilton

LA Department of Justice